

MSU Extension

Agriculture and Agribusiness Institute; Extension Educator – Farm Management

Position Overview

As part of Michigan State University Extension (MSUE) and the Agriculture and Agribusiness Institute, this position will provide local as well as statewide leadership and educational programming expertise in Farm Management with emphasis on whole-farm business analysis. The successful applicant will work with farmers and agribusiness in their local areas as well as across Michigan. This position is located in some of Michigan's most intensive and diverse agricultural locations. This position will collaborate across work teams, Institutes and commodity groups, and work with faculty, specialists and educators for overall advancement of Michigan agricultural industries. This position will be the regional point-of-contact for Southwest Michigan leadership and educational programming expertise in farm management, with an emphasis on farm business economic and financial analysis, business transition, income tax education and general farm business management topics such as economics of technologies and return on investment. The successful applicant will design, implement and evaluate educational programming that is research-based; will address the needs of clientele groups; ensure dissemination of research-based information through various methods, including multimedia, in-person education, social media, use of distance education technologies, written articles, bulletins, etc. The successful candidate will provide learning experiences and information for farmers and agri-business professionals that will contribute to enhancing profitable agricultural products, contribute to the short- and long-term viability of farms, and the economic well-being of Michigan residents, and serve as an informational resource for Extension personnel.

Application Process

For additional information interested and qualified candidates should visit the Michigan State University jobs page at www.jobs.msu.edu and search for **posting number 3507**. Applicants are asked to submit an up-to-date resume/CV and a cover letter that includes the names and email addresses of four professional references. **For full consideration please submit applicant materials by Wednesday, July 27, 2016.**

Qualifications

- Master's degree from an accredited institution in a field of study related to farm business management to be earned by date of hire;
- Knowledge of farm financial statements, agricultural tax regulation, cash accounting and associated software;
- Knowledge of general farming practices related to livestock and crop production;
- 3-years' experience in Extension program delivery or demonstrated ability and skill in educational program planning, implementation and evaluation (relevant experience acquired within the last 5 years preferred);
- Ability to create and carry out a project plan from research of initial concept to project completion and follow-up;
- Experience with marketing/promotion of educational programs;
- Strong interpersonal, oral and written communication skills;
- Experience and proven ability working productively with a team;
- Proficiency in use of technology (e.g. web research, Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook for mail/calendaring, distance technology, etc.) for day-to-day work and educational program delivery, record-keeping, reporting, team-based communications and overall management;
- Demonstrated success in program development and delivery to diverse audiences/communities, including but not limited to race, gender, socioeconomic class, disabilities and other differences;
- Ability to regularly travel within the assigned area and surrounding communities, as well as occasional statewide travel in order to perform the duties of this position;
- Ability to lift and carry educational materials, equipment, etc. up to 25 lbs.;
- Proven ability in establishing and working with a diverse network of constituents and community members across race, gender, socioeconomic class, disabilities and other differences to assist with program development and outreach;
- Understanding of and ability to implement Civil Rights principles and compliance standards.

Preferred Qualifications

- Familiarity with agricultural accounting and analysis software and tools.

This position is a full-time, end-dated appointment renewable annually.